

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00311 161112Z
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ACDE-00 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01
INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01
PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05
/089 W

-----161134Z 090425 /12

P 160930Z JUN 77
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2201
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY UNN
INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY UNN
USCINCEUR PRIORITY UNN

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 311

FROM MBFR REPRESENTATIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: INFORMAL SESSION WITH EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES OF
JUNE 14, 1977

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN THE JUNE 14, 1977 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE
VIENNA TALKS, THE ALLIES WERE REPRESENTED BY THE BELGIAN REP,
FRG REP, AND US REP AND THE EAST BY SOVIET REPS TARASOV AND SHUSTOV,
GDR REP OESER AND CZECHOSLOVAK REP MEISNER. MILITARY ADVISORS
ALSO PARTICIPATED.

2. THE SESSION WAS BRIEF. EASTERN REPS CLAIMED THAT DECISION TAKEN
AT THE RECENT LONDON NATO MEETINGS MEANT THAT THE WEST WAS INCREASING
ITS ARMAMENTS IN THE REDUCTION AREA ALTHOUGH THE EAST HAD NOT DONE SO

,
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00311 161112Z

THUS CASTING DOUBT ON WESTERN SINCERITY IN THE VIENNA TALKS.
THEY COMPARED THE MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE OF THE EASTERN REDUCTION
APPROACH WITH THE WESTERN REDUCTION APPROACH TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF
THE WESTERN APPROACH. THEY RESPONDED TO WESTERN QUESTIONS ABOUT
EASTERN DATA POSED IN THE PREVIOUS SESSION AND ASKED FURTHER QUES-
TIONS ABOUT WESTERN DATA AND COUNTING METHODS.

3. WESTERN REPS EXPLAINED THE WESTERN POSITION ON COLLECTIVITY OF MANPOWER CEILINGS. THEY REPLIED TO EASTERN QUESTIONS RAISED IN THE JUNE 7 SESSION AND ASKED FURTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT EASTERN DATA. WESTERN REPS ALSO REVIEWED THE INCONCISTENCIES BETWEEN EARLIER EASTERN ACTIONS POINTING TO EASTERN RECOGNITION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A SIZEABLE EASTERN SUPERIORITY IN MILITARY MANPOWER AND PRESENT EASTERN DATA CLAIMS.

4. GDR REP SAID THAT IN NETHERLANDS REP'S PRESENTATION IN JUN 7 INFORMAL SESSION, NETHERLANDS REP HAD ACKNOWLEDGED THE EXISTENCE OF WESTERN PLANS TO INCREASE NATO FORCES IN THE REDUCTION AREA. NETHERLANDS REP'S ATTEMPTS TO JUSTIFY THESE DECISIONS BY ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EASTERN COUNTRIES WAS UNTENABLE. GDR REP CLAIMED EASTERN PARTICIPANTS HAD NOT TAKEN AND WERE NOT UNDERTAKING MEASURES TO INCREASE THE STRENGTH OF THEIR FORCES AND ARMANENTS IN THE REDUCTION AREA. THE EAST WAS REPLACING OLD ARMAMENTS AND THERE HAD BEEN NO QUANTITATIVE INCREASE IN ARMANENTS SUCH AS HAD BEEN CLAIMED BY THE NETHERLANDS REP ON JUN 7. THE WEST ON THE OTHER HAND WAS ENGAGED IN INCREASING ITS FORCES IN THE AREA. GDR REP ALSO CITED PRESS REPORTS ABOUT INTRODUCTION OF NEUTRON WAR-HEADS BY THE US. THESE WESTERN PLANS TO INCREASE ARMAMENTS MADE UNDERSTANDABLE THE WESTERN REFUSAL TO AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO REDUCE ARMAMENTS IN VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS. GDR REP URGED ACCEPTANCE BY THE WEST OF THE EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL.

5. BELGIAN REP PRESENTED WESTERN CASE FOR COLLECTIVITY OF POST REDUCTION RESIDUAL CEILINGS ON MILITARY MANPOWER. HE SHOWED HOW THIS PROVISION WAS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE FACTS OF THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND WITH THE REQUIREMENT THAT AGREEMENT SHOULD NOT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MBFR V 00311 161112Z

DIMINISH THE SECURITY OF ANY PARTICIPANTS. BELGIAN REP ALSO POINTED OUT THAT WESTERN REPS HAD IN SEVERAL PAST OCCASIONS RAISED THE SUBJECT OF ASSOCIATED MEASURES AND SET FORTH THE WESTERN POSITION ON THIS TOPIC. ALTHOUGH EASTERN REPS HAD INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD COMMENT ON THIS SUBJECT, UP TO THE PRESENT, THEY HAD NOT DONE SO.

6. CZECH REP MADE A COMPARISON OF THE MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE OF THE EASTERN AND WESTERN REDUCTION APPROACHES. THE EASTERN APPROACH CALLED FOR REDUCTION OF AIR FORCE MANPOWER. THE WESTERN APPROACH DID NOT. THE EASTERN APPROACH CALLED FOR SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS ON BOTH SIDES. THE WESTERN APPROACH DID NOT. THE EASTERN APPROACH PROVIDED FOR REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS. THE WESTERN APPROACH DID NOT, ASIDE FROM THE PROPOSED ONE-TIME REDUCTION OF US NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS. EASTERN PROPOSAL COVERED NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS OR THE COMPONENTS OF NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS HELD BY ALL PARTICIPANTS. THE WESTERN PROPOSAL DID NOT. THE EASTERN PROPOSAL ENVISAGED REDUCTION BY WHOLE UNITS AND FORMATIONS WHILE THE WESTERN PROPOSAL CALLED ONLY FOR SELECTIVE REDUCTION BY INDIVIDUALS. THE EASTERN PROPOSAL PROVIDED FOR REDUCTION COMMITMENTS BY ALL PARTICIPANTS. THE WESTERN PROPOSAL

DID NOT.

7. US REP PRESENTED ANSWERS TO EASTERN QUESTIONS RAISED IN JUN 7 SESSION. HE GAVE SOME DETAILS ON THE WESTERN APPROACH TO EXCLUSIONS, WHICH THE WEST HAD APPLIED TO THE FORCES OF BOTH SIDES. HE SPECIFIED SOME EASTERN ORGANIZATIONS WHOSE PERSONNEL HAD NOT BEEN INCLUDED IN WESTERN DATA, BUT SAID THAT CLARITY ON THIS TOPIC WAS DIFFICULT BECAUSE THE WEST WAS NOT SURE THAT THE EAST HAD REACHED THE SAME CONCLUSIONS AS THE WEST AS TO PRECISELY WHICH EASTERN PERSONNEL AND ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED EVEN IF BOTH SIDES STATED THEY HAD EXCLUDED SIMILAR CATEGORIES.

8. TARASOV ANSWERED WESTERN QUESTIONS ON EASTERN DATA FROM JUNE 7 SESSION AND ASKED A FEW ADDITIONAL SPECIFIC QUESTIONS.

9. FRG REP POSED SOME ADDITIONAL WESTERN QUESTIONS ON EASTERN FORCES AND REVIEWED THE WESTERN POSITION ON THE INCONSISTENCY BETWEEN EARLIER EASTERN POSITIONS AND PRESENT EASTERN DATA CLAIMS.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 MBFR V 00311 161112Z

END SUMMARY. RESOR

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MBFRV00311
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770215-0193
Format: TEL
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770650/aaaabsbq.tel
Line Count: 140
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ac00077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2130690
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: INFORMAL SESSION WITH EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES OF JUNE 14, 1977
TAGS: PARM, XH, XT, US, NATO
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ac00077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009